From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu
Subject: 102D characteristics
Message-ID: <SA39+2DmFka@hrlban1.alhra.af.mil>

Yesterday I promised to post characteristics of the Western Electric 102D,
so FWIW here they are.

     102D first manufactured in 1922
     AF amplifier or modulator application
     Filament voltage = 2.1 VDC
     Filament current = 1.0 A
     Plate potential = 130 V
     Plate current = 0.8 mA
     mu = 29.6
     Gm = 510 umhos
     Rp = 58Kohms

73, John Martin
     jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: 600 Metre Guard
Message-ID: <F8VN5743.F8VN5754@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Yep, into the mid 1920's or so broadcasters HAD to have a guard receiver for
500 KHz. This was in the days when spark was king in marine radio, and the
selectivity of receivers (especially those of the Navy and Coast Guard, who
refused to pay patent royalties for decent receiver circuits) wasn't all it
would soon be. The early broadcasters were required to minimize QRM to dis-
tress calls by shutting down!

With the very early Western Electric broadcast station packages, a guard rec-
eiver was a part of the package.

If I remember correctly, there was even an active marine channel IN THE MIDDLE
OF THE AM BROADCAST BAND until the mid-20's! I'd have to check, but 888 KC
seems to ring a bell. Broadcasters operated there on a shared, secondary user
basis!

                                    73's,

                                            Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995

From: Jeffrey Herman <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Re: 600 Metre Guard
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950831202348.25381A-100000@kahuna>

On Fri, 1 Sep 1995 TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu wrote:
> If I remember correctly, there was even an active marine channel IN THE MIDDLE
> OF THE AM BROADCAST BAND until the mid-20's! I'd have to check, but 888 KC
> seems to ring a bell. Broadcasters operated there on a shared, secondary user
> basis!

Berlin Conference Of 1906: ``The accomplishments of the Berlin
Converence can be briefly summarized. With respect to the
basic problem of obligatory intercommunication*, little
more than a beginning was made. On the matter of frequency
allocations progress was more substantial in terms of
what were felt to be the needs of the day, but the
allocation of only two frequencies, 600 and 300 meters,
meant that the hoped-for reduction in interference
between stations would be in considerable degree be
nullified. ...''

So, 500 and 1000 kc were the two maritime operating freqs.,
but oddly, even though the need for a universal distress call
was recognized, no particular wavelength was designated.
The London Conference of 1912 filled that gap.

* Recall the strangle-hold Marconi had on his ops and his
stations: He forbid them from communicating with other
company operators and stations, even in times of distress.
In fact, the Marconi Company op aboard ship answered first
to Marconi, second to the ship's captain. Bricks were laid
on Marconi keys to prevent other company ops from passing
traffic. The 1903 and 1906 conferences strived to make
intercommunication between *all* ops and stations, regardless
of company, obligatory. It wasn't until London 1912 that
member nations suceeded in `obligatory intercommunication'.

Gee, it would have been wonderful to be around back then
to have lived through that most fascinating period of time...

73 from Hawaii, the center of the V-J Day ceremonies of the Pacific,
Jeff NH6IL (ex Coastie code op)
ZUT!!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Bill VanAlstyne <bill@cruz.com>
Subject: Re: 600 Metre Guard

Message-ID: <199509011636.AA11528@cruz.com>

At 01:44 AM 9/1/95 -0500, Jeffrey Herman wrote:

>* Recall the strangle-hold Marconi had on his ops and his
>stations: He forbid them from communicating with other
>company operators and stations, even in times of distress.
>In fact, the Marconi Company op aboard ship answered first
>to Marconi, second to the ship's captain. Bricks were laid
>on Marconi keys to prevent other company ops from passing
>traffic. The 1903 and 1906 conferences strived to make
>intercommunication between *all* ops and stations, regardless
>of company, obligatory. It wasn't until London 1912 that
>member nations suceeded in `obligatory intercommunication'.

I've been doing a bit of study about Marconi and the Marconi Company over the past months, and I must take issue with some of these assertions unless they can be documented -- and if you have such documentation, I'd really love to see it, as it would add to my historical wisdom, such as it is. :)

According to "A History of the Marconi Company" and several other books I've read recently, it was *never* the policy of the Marconi Company that land stations or ships equipped with Marconi equipment should refuse to intercommunicate with ships in distress. It was well-known even then that Marconi had a deeply personal commitment to increasing maritime safety through wireless, over and above any commercial concerns. In fact, this was a *specific exception* to the entirely understandable company policy (given the commercial exigencies of the time) that Marconi land stations not accept *commercial* traffic from ships equipped by competitors who had not themselves made the huge investment in erecting costly land stations and interconnections to land telegraphy lines.

As to operators "answering to Marconi first, the captain second", I'm not sure exactly what is implied by that, but certainly even the very early maritime records (from 1900 on) contain numerous examples of Marconi wireless operators serving their ships and captains with great distinction, in many cases above and beyond the call of duty. I could cite specific documented examples, but I don't want to use more bandwidth here than necessary on something many will regard as a "non-BA topic". :) I'd be more than happy to carry on the discussion off-list.

Bill VanAlstyne, N6FN
bill@cruz.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: owens@stout.atd.ucar.edu (Chip Owens)

Subject: Any BA list participants nr. Champaign,IL?
Message-ID: <199509011838.SAA04750@syrah.atd.ucar.edu>

Hi,

Are there any list participants living anywhere near Champaign, Illinois?
I'm out here in the cornfields trying to scrounge up a few parts to try
and build a rig & get on the air. I could use an 80M band CW crystal and
other odds and ends. Anybody on the list in this area?

'73,   Chip Owens, NW0O
owens@stout.atd.ucar.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Arrgh! (was: Tempting Fate)
Message-ID: <199509010625.BAA08002@zoom.bga.com>

As Henry van Cleef said
>
>
> On the wiring, the white (hot) side goes through the fuse to
> the switch, bypass cap behind it, electrically. That way, if the fuse
> blows or the power switch is off, everything behind them is at neutral.
>
Like Ben Franklin, I got it backward. You want to put the fuse in the
black side, which is "hot" in power wiring.

I wrote this quickly because my scope probe gave out. Used to be
switchable X1 and X10. The goddam resistor shorted out, so it is now
permanently X1. Cheap $%^&*%$ oriental probes! The thing says 600
volts and I only put 550 on it. #$%^&^%!
> --
> ***
> Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
> ***
>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: "Turini, Bill" <turinib@wdni.com>
Subject: BA & Surplus Stores in Atlanta?
Message-ID: <199509011540.AA13124@interlock.wdni.com>

I'll be travelling to Atlanta toward the end of September for a conference.
 Are there any BA places or surplus stores in the vicinity that may be of
interest?

Thanks

Bill Turini KA4GAV/7 turinib@wdni.com
Weyerhaeuser Co.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Andrew Dumas <adumas1@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: BA Wanted/For Sale List
Message-ID: <199509011142.EAA21265@ix3.ix.netcom.com>

The latest edition of the BA Wanted/For Sale List is now available for
downloading via email.

To reeive it: send an email to: listproc@theporch.com

Leave the subject blank and in the body, type: get boatanchors bawant.forsale

In a while the latest copy will arrive in your mailbox.

Deletions/additions/comments to: adumas1@ix.netcom.com

Please remember to submit additions in the same format used in the BA
Wanted/For Sale List.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: HAMRLUND@aol.com
Subject: Bud cabinet looking for home
Message-ID: <950901150950_89069126@emout04.mail.aol.com>

I have an almost new (actually it was never used for anything) Bud cabinet.
light grey in color. double sided aprox. 20" front to back(or other front)
20 3/4" wide and has 17 1/2" of panel space, on both sides.
looks like a cube, it is light weight (aluminum i believe). Bud wants to move
in hopes of finding a loving home. Bud said he original cost approx $384.00
He says he'll need traveling expenses, $ 75.00, he says will get him to his
new
home..unless he says he decides to leave the cont. U.S. he's undecided.
For travel information contact robert fowle.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: jproc@worldlinx.com
Subject: CCG on 500 khz
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950831225056.jproc@>

Dear BA's,

There was an article about CW on 500 khz by Bob Eldridge VE7BS in the Sept/95 issue of The Canadian Amateur Magazine. I thought a paraphrased version was worth sharing with the group. For all of those who love CW, there is some good news.

It turns out that 'the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) is committed to offer distress and safety service, including CW guard on 500 Khz, until the year 1999. Some CCG stations are scheduled to continue to that date. Others, especially stations located in inland waters have already ceased CW operation.....<text omitted for brevity>.....

In the US, the Coast Guard turned over CW operation to private coast stations. World Wireless Beacon plans to publish an article about Globe Wireless, which operates KFS and WNU in the US and VCT in Canada. Globe is constructing inew stations in Hawaii (Jeffery Herman, are you listening?), New Zealand and Sweden. New coast stations? Interesting'.

The last sentence in the article really blew me away. 'In the early 1920's, all broadcasting stations in the US had to guard 500 Khz for distress traffic'. Can anyone shed more light on this last sentence? Would this have applied to commercial broadcast stations? What about the 500 khz silent periods - did they always stay the same right from day one?

Regards,

Jerry Proc VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida, Toronto Ontario

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Jeffrey Herman <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Re: CCG on 500 khz
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950831190422.25140B-100000@kahuna>

On Thu, 31 Aug 1995 jproc@worldlinx.com wrote:

> In the US, the Coast Guard turned over CW operation to private coast
> stations. World Wireless Beacon plans to publish an article about Globe
> Wireless, which operates KFS and WNU in the US and VCT in Canada. Globe is
> constructing new stations in Hawaii (Jeffrey Herman, are you listening?),

Yes yes yes, I am!

> New Zealand and Sweden. New coast stations? Interesting'.

Ooooo, that gives me goose bumps all over! I just forwarded this
article to station KFS for their comments. If Globe is installing
a station here I want to be in on it. Heck, I'll even help 'em string
up the antennas on the beach. I'd *love* to go back to work as a
professional CW op - shoot, I'd stand watches for no pay...

Jerry - was there any contact address of the author?

> The last sentence in the article really blew me away. 'In the early 1920's,
> all broadcasting stations in the US had to guard 500 Khz for distress
> traffic'. Can anyone shed more light on this last sentence? Would this have
> applied to commercial broadcast stations? What about the 500 khz silent
> periods - did they always stay the same right from day one?

I have a summary of each of the world maritime radio conferences starting
with Berlin 1903 and ending with Geneva 1959 and no mention is made of which
conference established the silent periods. Bob - what do your references
say?

Jeff NH6IL (ex NMO CW op)
ZUT ZUT ZUT!

P.S. Whatever comments I receive from KFS I'll pass on.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Bill Smith <bilsmith@crl.com>
Subject: English Radio Info Wanted
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950831185758.21649E-100000@crl7.crl.com>

Have two questions... one, in general, is there a newsgroup where the
subject matter is old tube receivers of the Atwater-Kent, Philco, RCA
variety? Seems boatanchors relates to communications equip. instead of
old broadcast receivers. Thus the following may be a bit out of order.

Second question: A friend has an English receiver, circa 1935.
Manufacturer name is "Cossor", model 535. Cossor apparently made a
variety of electronic components as well as assembled sets. This unit

uses the following tubes: 41MPG, MSVS/PEN, ED4, 42MP/PEN, 442BV. It
works, but hum is present when a station is received. A 210/PG was found
in the socket for the MVSVS/PEN which may be the culprit (wrong tube).

Does anyone have any idea where we might find info? Another newsgroup?
Thanks for the use of the bandwidth.

de Bill, AB6MT
bilsmith@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Bill Smith <bilsmith@crl.com>
Subject: Re: English Radio Info Wanted
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950901123002.7262B-100000@crl10.crl.com>

Thanks, all for the newsgroup info and further regarding the Cossor.
Really appreciate the feedback!

73 de Bill, AB6MT
bilsmith@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Flattening celluloid
Message-ID: <199509010913.EAA14301@zoom.bga.com>

One problem I have with that Signal Shifter is that the plastic dial is
warped like crazy, as is also the clear plastic insert that goes over
it. How can I flatten these out? I pressed them in a stack of books
for about three weeks, but that doesn't seem to have done anything.
Any bright ideas on how to get these thing flattened?
--
****
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
****

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Duncan Cadd <dcadd@luc.ac.be>
Subject: Flattening celluloid
Message-ID: <9509011339.AA12725@alpha.luc.ac.be>

Greetings, Anchorites, from a still pleasant Diepenbeek in N.E. Belgium !

> One problem I have with that Signal Shifter is that the plastic dial is
> warped like crazy, as is also the clear plastic insert that goes over
> it. How can I flatten these out? I pressed them in a stack of books
> for about three weeks, but that doesn't seem to have done anything.
> Any bright ideas on how to get these thing flattened?
> --
> **********
> Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
> **********
>
>

Hmm. It depends a bit if it's genuine cellulose nitrate, or, perhaps (and hopefully) more likely, cellulose acetate. If it's the former . . as I read on this list some time back "Danger, Will Robinson!"

In order to get a permanent set to a thermoplastic, you need to apply pressure above the 'glass transition' temperature, let the part cool WITH THE PRESSURE STILL APPLIED and then "Bob's yer uncle". Unfortunately, there is a LARGE variation in this temp for cellulose acetate. I suggest trying around 60-70C, and only if it doesn't soften go higher. Cellulose nitrate will also soften around 70C. Different crystalline forms of acetate, with different water contents, soften at anything up to ca. 400C (!) [source: Polymer Handbook] and the experimental data are inconsistent, which really helps. But since these bits were probably made by compression or injection moulding, I suspect a glass transition in the lower end of this range. One thing to beware of when you apply pressure - at temps above the glass transition, the plastic will also become 'tacky' and will tend to stick to things. Pressing between non-stick surfaces (PTFE etc) may help avoid the embarrassing situation of having a nice flat dial firmly glued to a book. Quite what elevated temperature may do to the markings I have no idea. Keep a weather-eye on the flattening process - if the heat is too high OR you leave it too long, the components may not only be flattened but spread like cream cheese 8-]

Hope this helps.
73,

Duncan ON9CHU / G0UTY   G-QRP 8117

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: jml@spider.lloyd.com (Jim Lockwood)
Subject: Re: Flattening celluloid

Message-ID: <m0soa33-001OftC@spider.lloyd.com>

At 04:14 AM 9/1/95 -0500, Henry van Cleef wrote:
>One problem I have with that Signal Shifter is that the plastic dial is
>warped like crazy, as is also the clear plastic insert that goes over
>it. How can I flatten these out?

Both of my DX-100s had warped plastic dial parts when I got them. In particular, I am talking about the green filter with the slit that sits behind the dial itself. The effect of this filter being warped is that the white fiduciary shadow that is supposed to appear on the dial itself was wide and indistinct, making frequency reading difficult.

To straighten these out non-destructively, I let them soak in hot water for several minutes to (hopefully) soften. Then while they were still in the hot water I (boiled my hands trying to) reformed them to the shape and degree of flatness I wanted.

The results were mixed.

Both filters improved, but one did so dramatically, the other noticeably but not sufficiently.

When the problem again irritates me enough to actually do something about it, I'll probably use a flat surface, a pressing cloth, and a steam iron to restore the flatness to the filter.

The problem with either of these techniques is that they are likely to be destructive to any lettering on the plastic dial.   That wasn't a concern in the case of the green DX-100 filters because they are just transparent pieces of plastic with no markings.

Good luck. I'd be interested in knowing what you end up trying and what results you get.

73,

Jim - km6nk

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: post@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu
Subject: Re: Flattening celluloid
Message-ID: <00995C01.B497CBA0.4573@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu>

Ohio University Electronic Communication

Date: 01-Sep-1995 02:42pm EST

To: Remote Addressee (_MX%"boatanchors@theporch.com")

From: Richard Post Dept: Instructional Media Services
POST Tel No:

Subject: Re: Flattening celluloid

I had a Setchell-Carlson AA5 with a celluloid dial that was so warped, the dial pointer could not pass one side. I used a hair dryer on it. When good and hot, I flattened it and held it till it cooled off. Worked fine. I would be leery of hot water for fear of cleaning it a bit too much.

The prewar Signal Shifter schematic and four pages of write-up are in the 1943 edition of Meissner's schematic book. Let me know if you still need it. Also has the Spotter schematic and its connections to the Shifter.

73 de Rich KB8TAD <post@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu>

Received: 01-Sep-1995 02:42pm

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Andrew Dumas <adumas1@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: Gonset Communicator
Message-ID: <199509011148.EAA22120@ix3.ix.netcom.com>

Hello again gang,

I recently acquired a Gonset Communicator. I'd be interested to hear some comments from the group on experiences you've had with the rig: problem areas, eccentricities, features, etc. And, of course, I need a manual and schematic! 8-))

73

Andrew Dumas
N1TGC
adumas1@ix.netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Steve Ellington <n4lq@iglou.com>
Subject: Re: HQ-129X Panel Colors (Red)
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950831223700.9218B-100000@iglou>

I was me asking about the 129x. Mine has a black Hammarlund name in the
upper left corner and HQ-129-X under the meter, also in black. All of the
adds show white so now we have 3 colors???

On Thu, 31 Aug 1995 Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com wrote:

> SOme time ago, someone asked about red markings and/or knobs on the 129X.
> I replied that I'd go take a look at mine, since I remembered some red on it.
>
> The result: the only red on the set is the script "Hammarlund" near the upper
> left of panel, and the "HQ-129-X" right under the S-meter and ant trimmer.
>
> Guess the make and model were REAL important to see! :-)
>
> The knobs are all balck with white pointer groove.
>
> BTW I think I mentioned this before, but my dials are still fairly light
> yellow, but the S-meter scale is a deep rich orange. Not burnt by the bulb,
> but born that way. 73, mike k w9nrd
>

  Steve
n4lq@iglou.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: "Richard A. Stalls" <rstalls@CapAccess.org>
Subject: Locked Out and Unfinished Business
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.950901032820.25620A-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

My Friends...

It would appear from my sudden inability about a week ago to receive messages from the boatanchor list or to post mine, that Jack Hill has terminated my subscription and blocked my e-mail from being posted. I don't know why he has done this as he has provided no notice or explanation. However, judging from the lack of respect he shown me and other subscribers over the past six months, this kind of thing comes as no surprise.

I rarely go where I'm not invited, but in this case, using my alternate Internet account to post this message is an exception. I have contributed $50 in support of the boatanchor list this year and feel that I am due some consideration for having done so, especially since there has been no offer of refund. This is in spite of Mr. Hill having suggested that supporting the list affords no privilege or consideration to the extent that he claims to have no interest in even knowing who has contributed. Speaking from the perspective of being a short-changed "cash customer", I therefore feel that posting this message to the list is justified.

What follows are three little items of "unfinished business":

1. THE BOATANCHORS GANG COOKOUT at the Montgomery County Fairground on the eve of the Foundation for Amateur Radio's "FARfest" is still on. If you will be in the area after about 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 9, try and come on out. Please e-mail me directly at <j38@clark.net> ASAP and let me know if you can make it so that I can both get a count and pass along the details on how to find the group. For brevity's sake, I'll save the rest for when I hear from you.

2. You may recall the thread about AIRCRAFT RESTORERS GUTTING BOATANCHORS a while back. I discussed that with some folks with the Confederate Air Force at the "Wings of Freedom" air show in Frederick, Maryland, this past weekend. I was advised that they didn't know of such a practice among the CAF, but if the radio equipment isn't restored along with the aircraft, it's because of a lack of expertise.

   I suggested that there are probably a lot of radio amateurs that would be more than willing to get involved in putting the radio gear back on the air. He provided me with names and numbers of the appropriate people to contact. There's more, but I'll save that too. If you're interested in becoming involved in this kind of project, send me an e-mail at <j38@clark.net> and I'll pass along what I find out.

3. It has been a while since I mentioned it, but BOATANCHORS: THE MOVIE has been in the works. I've made some preliminary shots of some of my own boatanchor gear and I've started work on an instructional

section on how to do wrinkle finish. However, without access to the group for arranging access to collections and other items of interest, I may shelve the project. If I continue with it, I post a notice in Electric Radio.

There are a few more items, but these are the only ones that have anything hanging at the moment, so I guess that will about sum it up from this end.

Thanks to those of you who made my time on the list fun.

73 DE K4KYO SK

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Manual available for RT-66, RT-67 and RT-68
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950901082337.12794A-100000@crl8.crl.com>

I am cleaning up the shack and find I have TM11-289 (TO16-35RT66-5) Receiver-Transmitter Manual for the RT-66,RT-67 and RT-68. I think these are AF sets for 28 or 50 mhz ? Anyway if someone needs it - It is available for the postage.
de stan ak0b
e-mail via randyw@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Mark Blair <Mark.Blair@tus.ssi1.COM>
Subject: Re: Manual available for RT-66, RT-67 and RT-68
Message-ID: <199509011643.JAA07298@tu212.tus.ssi1.com>

stan ak0b (AKA randyw@crl.com) wrote:
> I am cleaning up the shack and find I have TM11-289 (TO16-35RT66-5)
> Receiver-Transmitter Manual for the RT-66,RT-67 and RT-68. I
> think these are AF sets for 28 or 50 mhz ?

Yup. They're wideband FM sets, about 20-25 watts output, and were used in a lot of truck and tank radio systems. I have an RT-68, which covers 38.0 to 54.9 MHz (or something close to that range). The RT-67 and RT-66 each cover a lower band (I forget the exact ranges), with 900 kHz of overlap between bands. The units tune in 100 kHz steps, or you can disengage the detent pawl to get continuous tuning within each

1 MHz step. There's an interesting variable-geometry cam in the tuning mechanism so that you can tune the antenna circuit at each 1 MHz step, and then the unit interpolates in between 1 MHz steps.

Does anybody else out there in BA Land play with these sets?

--

Mark J. Blair, KE6MYK
Design Engineer
mark.blair@tus.ssi1.com (714) 573-6709
Silicon Systems, Inc.
14351 Myford Rd. m/s C-90
Tustin, CA 92680-7022

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: KS0F@aol.com
Subject: More knobs with finger holes
Message-ID: <950901140455_8749493@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Greetings all,
I am sure this is old news and probably will turn the SK Heath purists in their resting places. However I use the SB-104 main tuning knob on my SB 301 and SB 401. Much better for actually using these rigs on the air. If you spend a little time with the dial mechanism and get it right these knobs will work rather smoothly. Mine is about as good as my 75S3.

73 KS0F Mike

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Re: Pinging the list
Message-ID: <9509011139.AA02639@kali>

Actually, when I want to "ping" the List, I just email listproc@theporch.com and say
index boatanchors

..and if it comes back, I actually get something USEFUL in return!

--Andy
wallace@mc.com

P.S. Am sending off the order for coil forms for the Comet Pro this weekend! Will probably also order a bunch of books from AES. BEHIND THE FRONT PANEL is one of them. 73, all.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: michael.moore@24stex.com
Subject: R-4/A/B DIFFERENCE
Message-ID: <9509010954.0DWXS00@24stex.com>

PB>whereas the A & B versions have a separate AF pot. The A
PB>version, like the straight R-4 before it, still has the
PB>old-style flat disc vernier scale on the tuning knob, and no
PB>"finger hole" in the knob face for "speed tuning." The B version
PB>has a "spinner slot" for the finger in the tuning knob and also
PB>has a beveled vernier scale.

  Hmmm. My 'B' has the beveled scale but no finger hole (darn-it).
  Looking at the MOORE book it would appear that yours may have
  knob from a 'C'. If the C knob fits the B maybe I should look for
  a C knob. Seems to me someone had some C knobs with finger holes
  for sale on the list (Don M. ??).

  Mike...K6SQJ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: pbock@melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock)
Subject: Re: R-4/A/B differences
Message-ID: <9509011333.AA16056@syseng1.se.melpar.esys.com>

>I also just aquired an R4A and T4X. What is the difference in the R4A and
>R4B?

> Steve
>n4lq@iglou.com

     Not much that I can see. I've owned an R-4 and an R-4B in
the past, and the R-4 had concentric pots for RF and AF gain
whereas the A & B versions have a separate AF pot. The A
version, like the straight R-4 before it, still has the
old-style flat disc vernier scale on the tuning knob, and no
"finger hole" in the knob face for "speed tuning." The B version
has a "spinner slot" for the finger in the tuning knob and also
has a beveled vernier scale.

     There are certainly electrical differences; the A has a few
transistors and so is a true hybrid, whereas I don't believe the
R-4 had any transistors in it at all (not sure, memory's faded).

But without the two schematics in front of me, I couldn't elaborate further.

Maybe someone else has more in the way of substantive information on model differences.

73,

Paul, K4MSG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: azoth@netcom.com (Az0th)
Subject: Re: R-4/A/B differences
Message-ID: <199509011634.MAA04040@netcom13.netcom.com>

Hi Paul,

> "finger hole" in the knob face for "speed tuning." The B version
> has a "spinner slot" for the finger in the tuning knob and also
> has a beveled vernier scale.

Interesting. My R-4B (SN 13182) doesn't have a spinner, nor does my B manual show one (my T-4XB doesn't have one either.) Didn't those come in with the C line?

> There are certainly electrical differences; the A has a few
> transistors and so is a true hybrid, whereas I don't believe the
> R-4 had any transistors in it at all (not sure, memory's faded).

The only sand in my R-4 (SN 0380) is a handful of diodes (1N625's for the noise blanker gate and pulse clippers, and the AM detector; 1N3756's, an ED-3004 and another 1N625 in the power supply.)

Cheers es 73
RF Buchanan

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: KS0F@aol.com
Subject: Re: R-4/A/B differences
Message-ID: <950901134622_8730203@mail02.mail.aol.com>

The finger insert main tuning knob was C line only. Have seen and owned some B models with the C knobs installed. Original B knobs

had no finger indent and rather large cerations on knob where the
C had much finer grooves. I think the best receiver I ever owned
overall was an R4 completely stock. It caused me to get rid of my
shiney new niponese 440 that refused to hear signals the R4 would
copy.(yes, on the higher frequencies too).
Heard a DX station on 15 CW with the R4 which was on an antenna
switch but no TX with it. I swiltched to the far east wonder to work
the guy for a new one and he was not there! After switching back
and forth for several minutes it was obvious the new rig would not do.
This perticular R4 had the most effective noise blanker I have used
on HF. Sadly, mental illness allowed me to let it go.

73 Mike KS0F

P.S. Not point for point but for over all performance and capabilities
the Drake 4 line stuff is very tough to beat. Had used several pairs
for over 20 years, now own none, and am thinking about looking for
another pair (probably a B line with C spinner knobs hihi)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: pbock@melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock)
Subject: Re: R-4/A/B differences
Message-ID: <9509011842.AA22386@syseng1.se.melpar.esys.com>

Well, the first thing that goes is the memory, and I forget
what the other two are..... ;-)

I blew it. Owned the -4B line for about 7 years and
absolutely blew it. Memory gone, erased, kaput! The below is
correct:

>The finger insert main tuning knob was C line only. Have seen and
>owned some B models with the C knobs installed. Original B knobs
>had no finger indent and rather large cerations on knob where the
   (from Mike, KS0F)

My B-line had *NO* finger inserts. I called the original
owner (the guy who sold me the boxes) and he reminded me how the
receiver knob front aluminum insert (B models had an aluminum
insert in the knob face) was worn completely smooth and shiny
from him holding his finger against it and spinning it; the T-4XB
still had the "satin-finish" look. R-4s and A models had no
aluminum insert.

Fact was, the knob was so easy to spin on the B that the
lack of a finger insert wasn't really a problem. The R-4/-4A knob
is a different design and harder to spin, which is why I used a
hemispherical grinding bit to cut a finger detent in it on my

original R-4 many years ago - sounds crude, I know, but it actually worked fine and looked OK (no, I am *NOT* going to do it to my R-4A).

Mike is right, R-4s are sensitive dudes. Personally, I liked the 4-line Rx much better than the Tx, but that's just me. I've paired up the R-4 with ARC-5s, HX-20s, Adventurers, and homebrew rigs, used it as the back end on 6 and 2 meters, etc. Great receivers! In fact, I have a homebrew 3-transistor IF noise blanker built for use between a VHF converter and the R-4 (running with a 14-16 MHz IF from the converter) which absolutely will take a S-9 +20 dB power line noise down to about S-1 (its only flaw is that it gets flakey if a strong local comes on the same VHF band). But that's another subject.....

73,

Paul, K4MSG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Signal Shifter shifting signal
Message-ID: <199509010901.EAA13960@zoom.bga.com>

Well, after ohming the thing out, replacing one filter cap, installing a 3-wire power cord, fuse, and RFI filter, and cooking the caps till they reformed, I got to work on the polished-up 1942 Signal Shifter. Reinstalled the tuning capacitor and vernier drive, along with the freshly-relacquered front panel. Got out the box that said "80 M band" and took out the coils and plugged them in. Some contact cement took care of reinstalling the little disks on the coils and gluing the box back together. Hung 300 ohms on the output terminals, and turned it on.

Like wow. 525 volts B+ on turn-on, dropping to 475 when the toobs warmed up. Some quick checks showed the oscillator oscillating, so I keyed the thing on, and got 125 volts peak-peak on that 300 ohm dummy load. That without bothering to tune the thing up beyond a quick look-see with a grid dip.

This hummer not only looks like brand new, it seems to play like brand new as well. Now to start tuning it up and running stability checks (and fixes) on it. I only changed a couple of caps and one power resistor (the VR tube feed), which was burned out. So I expect it to be as stable as a yacht in a hurricane.

In the meantime, I guess I'd better get the other three coil sets out
of their boxes and glue the disks and boxes back together.
--
****
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
****

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: "Gable, Edward M" <emg@rfpo2.rfc.comm.harris.com>
Subject: RE: Signal Shifter shifting signal
Message-ID: <3046F256@smtpgate.rfc.comm.harris.com>

snip, snip

Got out the box that said "80 M band"
and took out the coils and plugged them in.

This hummer not only looks like brand new, it seems to play like brand
new as well. Now to start tuning it up and running stability checks
(and fixes) on it.

Hank van Cleef
++++++++++++++++++++=
Hank - good luck with your latest project. I enjoy hearing of
your endeavors.   Good thing you started on 80 meters, wait
'til you try the 20 meter coils - Har Har.. Been there, done that...

Ed K2MP @ Rochester
emg@rfc.comm.harris.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: dmedley@indirect.com (David Medley)
Subject: Skyriders list
Message-ID: <199509011553.IAA23978@bob.indirect.com>

Francis Dexter in reply to your message.

Here is an authentic list of Hallicrafters Skyriders. This is an exerpt from
a list published by Chuck Dachis, The Hallicrafter Collector, some time ago.

S1-2-3 Skyriders - Very rare. Have been searching for one for years
S4-5-6-7 Super Skyrider ditto
S9 Super Skyrider. I have one of these
S10 Ultra Skyrider. VHF radio. Also quite rare
S11 Super Skyrider. I have seen one of these
S12 Skyrider Commercial another rare radio
S16-17 Super Skyriders. Fairly common
S21 Skyrider 5-10 5 and 10 meters. Never seen one
S22 Skyrider Marine. Very rare.
S23 Skyrider 23. Real nice radio. Only exists in the "X" version
S24 Skyrider Defiant. Only exists in the "X" version
S28 Super Skyrider. Only in the "X" version. 10,000 built in WW2. My favorite.
S32 Skyrider 32. Only in "X" version. Cut down version of SX-28
S41 Skyrider Junior. Never seen one of these

There exist various versions of most of these radios. Generally the "X" indicates a crystal filter. They also come sometimes in A,B,C versions which indicate either a modified radio or the same with different band cover.
I have other info on all the known Hallicrafters receivers if anyone has any other questions.
Dave Medley KI6QE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: DHOLL@telxon.mis.telxon.com (HOLLER DAVID   2940)
Subject: Re: Skyriders list
Message-ID: <9509011649.AA22938@telxon.mis.telxon.com>

>I have other info on all the known Hallicrafters receivers if anyone has any
>other questions.
>Dave Medley KI6QE

Dave
I have a Hallicrafters S-38D on which I have no information. My impression is that it was somewhat common. I am new to the boat anchors hobby so any information you could provide will be welcome.

Dave Holler
N1RGN

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Jeff.Edmonson@f510.n387.z1.fidonet.org (Jeff Edmonson)
Subject: subscribe

Message-ID: <331_9508312357@net387.texas.net>

subscribe
--
|Fidonet: Jeff Edmonson 1:387/510@Fidonet.org
|Internet: Jeff.Edmonson@f510.n387.z1.fidonet.org
|
| Brought to you by the 387Net Fidonet <=> Internet Gateway (1:387/3)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Michael Crestohl <mc@shore.net>
Subject: SWAP: DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY MICROFICHE: SWAP FOR ??????
Message-ID: <199509011121.AA27929@northshore.ecosoft.com>

Hello All:

I have a set of DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY microfiche to swap for something
neat and cool!

This is the MCRL-1 and MCRL-2 - NIIN TO LOGISTICS REFERENCE NO.

DECEMBER 1991 EDITION.

I'm not too sure what this, but I'll bet there are folks out there who do.

The stack of microfiche is almost 5" thick - lotta stuff I guess.

I'll swap it for something neat.......what'cha got?

Michael Crestohl, KH6KD/W1
mc@shore.net

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: SX-42 Knobs setscrew tool?
Message-ID: <9508312205.AA00391@bock.ih.att.com>

Sorry for my ticked-off tone on the request for SX-42 setscrew tool suggestions.
I guess we BA types should feel priveleged to be watching the evolution
of screw-head technology -- straight, Phillips, Allen, Hallicrufters, spline/
Bristol,
Torx, ... 73, mike k

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Dave AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>
Subject: Tempting Fate = Toasty Trons
Message-ID: <950901040309_72227.1640_EHM142-1@CompuServe.COM>

Don/All:

Let me add my support on not tempting fate. I've had units come-up
and play for awhile, only to have some of the old caps go west.
Even when variac-ted slowly for hours, some keel-over.

If you're going to wait for the failures, then don't leave the unit
running when you're not there watching it. Keep your nose tuned-up
for smelling roasted resistor and toasty transformer and you might
pull the plug in time.

It's safe to say that I've restored over 50 WWII-era pieces of
gear and I have *never* had a unit that kept all it's caps.
I had one R-25 ARC-5 receiver which was NIB keep it's original
bathtubs for a couple of months, but three of them eventually
bit the wienie, costing me a crispy critter resistor as well.

To be fair, I do believe in testing the caps rather then
shot-gunning the whole set in most cases. None of the remaining
caps in the R-25 have since failed, so they were spared the
executioner's iron.

73 DE Dave AB5S/7
      72227.1640@compuserve.com
      Lost Wages, Nevada.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: Tempting Fate...
Message-ID: <199509010354.WAA29050@zoom.bga.com>

As pmills said
>
> Don,
>
>   Don't tempt fate. Leave the line bypass caps in if you want but put
> in a 3 prong ac cord with the green neutral going to the chassis.

I am waiting for the 1942 filter caps in my Signal Shifter to hit 450

volts. We are now at 445.

Yes, to a three-wire power cord. Yes, to a fuse if it doesn't have one. And yes to line bypass caps. There are two ways to do this: a single .01 across the white and black behind the switch, or a pair of .01's from the white and black to the green ground. Hewlett-Packard did it both ways---the single .01 is later. Unless you need to filter out below 455 Khz, .01 is adequate. Some manufacturers put some big caps here (I've taken out .5's), but that just means a lot of reactive current unless you want to help the power company with its power factor. On the wiring, the white (hot) side goes through the fuse to the switch, bypass cap behind it, electrically. That way, if the fuse blows or the power switch is off, everything behind them is at neutral.

I don't bother with the ground fault connector---this is rental property, and I feed from a plain connector strip. No harm if you want to use one, but use the single .01 across the line if you do, to prevent imbalance from "kicking" the thing. Probably won't, but leaky old quarter mikes definitely will cause problems.

Oops. 455 volts. Time to put the rest of that hummer together and see if it sings.
--
****
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
****

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Bill Smith <bilsmith@crl.com>
Subject: Re: Tempting Fate...
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950831154503.15118A-100000@crl9.crl.com>

Don't fix it if it's not broken! Hi Hi... but watch it like a hawk for a while. Paper caps that haven't been used for a while will tend to develop leakage. But perhaps the mil-spec parts in your receiver will be ok. I have an SX-25 that has all original components and it works fine, but I have had to recap many other receivers. Who knows why, think it has a lot to do with where the unit was stored, and to what extent the unit was exposed to moisture.

BTW, resistors are just as likely to change value as they are temperature-cycled through normal usage.

Sure saves a lot of effort and keeps the unit original if you don't have to do anything to it. Best of luck!

73 de Bill, AB6MT
bilsmith@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)
Subject: the dangers of three prong plugs
Message-ID: <m0soYgo-0018KQC@aupair.cs.athabascau.ca>

This is in response to all you guys who rush around putting three wire cords on your old Atwater Kents. Not that I am opposed to the practice but...

While putting in a three pling plung may give you peace of mind, it is only as good as the third plong, its wire, and the bonding terminal and straps in the appliance.

Even more important, few houses built before 1960 were wired with a ground conductor. If you have an older house with three wire sockets you had better open them up and see if anything is connected to the green terminal, in Canada it is illegal to use a three wire receptacle on a two wire circuit but the Dept of Labour does not do spot checks on random houses and I have even seen electricians install three prong receptacles in two wire circuits.

If you house IS wired with a ground conductor you should check that it is wired correctly - buy one of those three light testers and check the sockets. I haven't even begun to pontificate on corrosion and other house wiring failures that can happen - especially with aluminum wiring - which can degrade the performance of the safety ground. Ditto for GFI devices, do you test them on schedule like that spec sheet demand?

The third wire is just one more safety interlock and should be treated as such, if you trust it blindly you might get yourself killed.

```
  Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS   : "...underneath those
  Athabasca University                  : tuques we wear, our heads
  Athabasca, Alberta Canada             : are naked!"
  ** tech@cs.athabascau.ca **                    :    - Arthur Black
```

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: Re: the dangers of three prong plugs
Message-ID: <9508018099.AA809982383@mail.creo.bc.ca>

North American three prong plugs are dangerous anyway. I had occasion to lecture on plug design at a trade show in Dusseldorf earlier this year when North American colleagues snickered at the "ridiculous"

European and English plugs. I proceeded to point out their extreme solidity, the impossibility of pulling them out by the cord (especially English ones), and the cunning way it is impossible to have exposed hot pins when plugging something in - being in Germany, we were looking at barrel-shaped plugs with two round prongs, and the ground pin sprouting from the recessed wall socket.

These are *serious* connectors, well worth the study of Boat Anchor enthusiasts. Also, since the line voltage there is already 240 volts, high-power equipment rarely needs special circuits.

73 from Burnaby,
laura VE7LDH

Email: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca / ve7ldh@amsat.org

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: the dangers of three prong plugs
Message-ID: <199509011935.OAA02260@zoom.bga.com>

As Richard Loken said
>
> While putting in a three pling plung may give you peace of mind, it is only
> as good as the third plong, its wire, and the bonding terminal and straps in
> the appliance.
>
> Even more important, few houses built before 1960 were wired with a ground
> conductor. If you have an older house with three wire sockets you had better
> open them up and see if anything is connected to the green terminal, in Canada
> it is illegal to use a three wire receptacle on a two wire circuit but the
> Dept of Labour does not do spot checks on random houses and I have even seen
> electricians install three prong receptacles in two wire circuits.

In the US, distribution grounding became common around 1930.
>
> If you house IS wired with a ground conductor you should check that it is wired
> correctly - buy one of those three light testers and check the sockets. I
> haven't even begun to pontificate on corrosion and other house wiring failures
> that can happen - especially with aluminum wiring - which can degrade the
> performance of the safety ground. Ditto for GFI devices, do you test them
> on schedule like that spec sheet demand?
>
Well, I think that checking out the integrity of the primary power wiring is pretty fundamental. Whatever one is using for a ham shack or work area should have its wiring checked in detail, and by this, I mean

actually opening up the boxes and checking to see what's inside.

One basic problem that should not be ignored is the existence of local electrical codes (state, city, etc.) which may or may not agree with the National Electrical Code. However, having a copy of the NEC Handbook, published by the National Fire Protection Assn. of Quincy, Mass., is a good starting point. I do not know what Canadian practices or equivalents are.

In US practice, open 2-wire distribution ("knob and tube"), which had no grounding or polarization, was supplanted around 1930 by the use of armored cable ("BX"). This stuff was supposed to be polarized (black=hot, white=neutral) and the armor served as a ground. Early armored cable relied on screw clamps on the boxes to connect to the armor. The early stuff also had organic insulation, which was very prone to deteriorate and short out. "Romex," or NM (non-metallic) cable also showed up in the thirties---with organic insulation, and run with a skinny wire for ground. Later armored cable has a ground wire run inside the armor, and "Romex" now has a ground conductor the same size as the other wires (typically #14 for a 15 amp service). Both are now made with plastic insulation that supposedly lasts a while.

Three-prong primary power connectors were not introduced until the mid-1950's. I recall first seeing these around 1957. While a few earlier devices had 2-prong plugs with a third ground pigtail that was supposed to run to a connector stud on the box that replaced the cover mounting screw, I don't think many people considered issues of ground integrity in the wiring very seriously, particularly in domestic installations.

The current code is very specific that grounds are to be run through the cable to the box, connected by a screw in the box, and that a separate ground strap is to be run from the box to the receptacle ground connector. I've forgotten when this requirement for a separate strap was added, but think is was around 1970. This adds a wire to the box, which means that box size often needs to be increased (new deeper box installed).

In general, the things to check are:

1. Cable from the distribution box to the outlet is 3-wire, with ground capable of handling full current. Ground lead firmly attached at both ends.
2. Use a good quality receptacle. These come in at least two grades, "cheap" and "good." The dime store stuff is "cheap." Pay the money for the good ones at an electrical supply place. I've forgotten which "commercial grade" applies to, but pay the tariff for top quality. I rely on Leviton stuff, and had a copy of their catalog for a long time,

which I specifically ordered from by Leviton part no.
3. Use boxes that are big enough.
4. Add the ground strap from the receptacle to the box if it is not already there. New boxes generally have a #10 tapped hole with no screw in it---you'll need to get some screws.
5. A three-LED tester is something you should have in your toolkit. Mine is Snapit Catalog No. 49662. Use it on all 3-wire receptacles and check that you get two greens. Don't be astounded if you see a lot of previously-installed 3-wire receptacles that are wired incorrectly, particularly in domestic installations.
6. To test the ground circuit, rig up a test lamp with a 100 watt bulb and connections to the black (hot) side and the ground. Lamp should light to full brilliance, indicating that the ground circuit will pass an amp.
7. The distribution box is set up so that the neutral wires all return to a neutral block that is connected to the case of the box, as are all the ground wires. There is supposed to be one large wire that runs from the box case to a water pipe or equal earth ground. Make sure this is present. I have seen these corrode and break at the water pipe end.

On older installations, on circuits where ground integrity can't be assured (knob and tube is still legal under a few circumstances), install a polarized two-wire receptacle, and make sure you've got the polarity correct.

On installation of ground fault receptacles, needless to say, there is no point in considering these until the wiring ground integrity has been checked out. These are fairly recent devices, and the NEC has picked up more locations for their use in recent years. Generally, if there is some place where a receptacle is within about six feet of a ground (plumbing, damp basement floors, etc.) a ground fault receptacle should be chosen. However, there are possibilities of setting up circuits with imbalanced flow in the white and black lines if you retrofit old electronics with 3-wire cords, which will trip a ground fault detector, even though there is no real "fault" in the equipment.

--
****
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
****

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Randall Berry <rberry@CapAccess.org>
Subject: Re: toobs *SMELL* so much better....

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.950901015231.6252D-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

On Thu, 31 Aug 1995, Paul H. Bock wrote:

> >Plus when a transistor glows a pretty red/orange it doesnt smell very good!
>
>   One of the things I realized I had missed for the last four
> years was the *smell* of a warmed-up tube radio. It's like
> having your own special brand of "electronic incense" wafting
> around you whilst you listen, just as melted rosin does while
> working on the bench.
>
>   Of course, there are also those "less than pleasant"
> fragrances one sometimes encounters, such as "Eau de Ohmite" or,
> my *least* favorite, "Essence of Triad."
>
> Paul, K4MSG
>
     Oh Putrid.. The Essence De Ohmite isnt to bad but the trIad insence
is Awfull! How about Selenium De RectumFire! I hesr thats fatally awfull.

--Randy Sniffing Solder is cool!
>

RBerry@CapAccess.org   N3LRX 3885 KHz AM
* Yell-RX Radio * If you give up your right to dream, you have given up
* Bowie, MD.   * your will to live.
*   *

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: rocco lardiere <lardiere@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: TRW Hamfest Los Angeles
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9508311900.A20606-0100000@netcom23>

Hal,

Sorry you were disappointed in the TRW swapmeet. I attend it most months
and almost always find some boatanchors worth looking at, if not buying.
At this month's, I found a cherry SX 101A across the aisle from those
very nice Swans. I paid $180, which is pricey, but I have never seen one
this nice. Guess what? It actually works, too! Or how about the R390
which went for $100 in the first aisle? Well, we all have our
pet likes and dislikes as far as equipment. I really do not care for
Swans, for example. As far as TRW, keep in mind that this is a monthly
event, not a Hamvention swapmeet. The TRW RC does a terrific job with
the organization and traffic, and the meet is always full. Anyway,

Dayton it's not, but it is local, and it is attended by lots of folks,
including some very astute boatanchor addicts. By the way, there are
usually plenty of parts available - I found a replacement PA loading
roller inductor and some HV fuses (the real in-line HV fuses) for my KWS-1
last meet in a giant pile of terrific
high-power RF junk, er, precious gems. Good luck on finding those
in the ER want ads. By the way, TRW is a good place to sell boatanchors
- the competition is pretty fierce for a nice piece at a fair price.

73 from Southern California (and do come back),

Rocco N6KN

On Thu, 31 Aug 1995, Hal R. Waite wrote:

>
> My first trip to the TRW hamfest was, with one exception, a severe
> disappointment. This ragtag operation is the worst "hamfest" that I have
> ever visited: tons of junked surplus equipment from defense contractors,
> CD's, fountain pens, computer equipment from the late 1980's, overpriced
> books on ham radio, etc.
>
> The most pitiful event was talking to new hams who thought all hamfests
> were like this flea market; they had never been to a hamfest outside of
> the LA area.
>
> The one bright point was the purchase of the Cubic Corporation Swan
> HF-700S Transceiver with the matching excellent power supply. This puppy
> puts out 150 watts in the tune position. The units are absolutely mint
> with all good tubes; went for $250 and was offered at $275.
>
> Fortunately I had other business in the LA area; it is certainly not
> worth the drive from Las Vegas.
>
> Hal K4GFI/7 halwaite@netcom.com
>
>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Duncan Cadd <dcadd@luc.ac.be>
Subject: Vibrator psu/English radios
Message-ID: <9509010741.AA03790@alpha.luc.ac.be>

Greetings, Anchorites, from a sunny and pleasant Diepenbeek in N.E. Belgium !

>I admit this is
>guesswork on my part, but considering how it works now, and availability of
>NOS 2 V vibrators, what have you got to lose by carefully trying to fix it?
>
>73, John Martin
>   jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu

Very true, sir, you have a good point. I'm grateful for your suggestion.

Bill, regarding Cossor, I'd almost forgotten that name! They were one of the sadly-demised Great British Valve Makers, even got a few of their 1930s vintage tubes back in the UK*. I'm pretty sure where I can get info on your friend's model 535, but the people I need to contact in the UK are not on email, so could be that with snailmail to-ing and fro-ing it will take a few weeks. Watch this space but don't hold your breath!

Another possibility occurs to me in the meantime. On some of the old radios, where there were only directly-heated filaments, hum sometimes impressed itself on the audio. Now this may not fit in with what you've said re the hum only becoming apparent when a station is received, but some of the early designs used a 'hum-bucking potentiometer' of a hundred or so ohms across the filament supply, centre arm earthed, the object being to cancel the hum induced via the ac to the filaments by balancing the supply against earth, if you see what I mean. You could take a look and see if your friend's radio contains such a pot, and if so, give it a gentle tweak.

(* and as I recall, some still work!)

73,

Duncan   ON9CHU / G0UTY   G-QRP 8117

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: David Stinson AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>
Subject: What Up With This?
Message-ID: <950901163911_72227.1640_EHM140-1@CompuServe.COM>

Re: Persons locked out of the list.

This is the second person I've heard say they were
"locked out of the list."

What's going on? If we're going to lose members of our
community, then we want to know why.

Have they really been locked-out, or is this some
unfortunate misunderstanding? I haven't seen them
be disruptive. I've had a few of my good humored
articles that poke fun at Collins Mania mysteriously
fail to get into the daily digests, but I chalked that
up to system glitches.

What's going on, Jack??

Dave AB5S/7
72227.1640@compuserve.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: FRANCIS4@AppleLink.Apple.COM (Francis, Dexter)
Subject: White is HOT ???
Message-ID: <809977333.1706021@AppleLink.Apple.COM>

Hank van Cleef writes:

"On the wiring, the white (hot) side goes through the fuse to
the switch, bypass cap behind it, electrically. That way, if the fuse
blows or the power switch is off, everything behind them is at neutral."

Whoa! I don't mean to question the group's leading authority on raising the BA
dead, but in my experience the color assignments for single phase 110 volt AC
are Black is HOT White is Common and Green is Earth Ground.

Fusing the common works, but does not assure isolation if the fuse blows.
I prefer a fused HOT myself.

-df

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: HAMRLUND@aol.com
Subject: Re: White is HOT ???
Message-ID: <950901154324_8828047@emout04.mail.aol.com>

I second that!!

robert

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 17:21:00 1995
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: White is HOT ???
Message-ID: <199509011947.OAA03378@zoom.bga.com>

As Francis, Dexter said
>
> Hank van Cleef writes:
>
> "On the wiring, the white (hot) side goes through the fuse to
> the switch, bypass cap behind it, electrically. That way, if the fuse
> blows or the power switch is off, everything behind them is at neutral."
>
> Whoa! I don't mean to question the group's leading authority on raising the BA
> dead, but in my experience the color assignments for single phase 110 volt AC
> are Black is HOT White is Common and Green is Earth Ground.
>
> Fusing the common works, but does not assure isolation if the fuse blows.
> I prefer a fused HOT myself.
>
Well, if you screw up one thing, everything tends to go to hell in a
handbasket. Yeah, I got this backward, and realized it almost as soon
as I mailed it, so mailed a correction to the list server, which seems
to have vanished into a black hole (hot).

In US power wiring, black and red are the hot sides (+/- 220) and white
is neutral.

When retrofitting with a 3-wire cord setup and a fuse, put the fuse
first, the switch second, in the BLACK line so that if either one
breaks the circuit, the rest of the box is at NEUTRAL.

My mailbox is filling up with comments from the sharp-eyed, and I hope
some of these are going to the list as well, because what I wrote was a
serious error.

Black is hot, white is neutral. Don't fuse or switch the neutral side,
put these in the black side. Let's hope this correction gets out to
the list.

--
****
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
****

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Bill Smith <bilsmith@crl.com>
Subject: RE: Why do toobs sound so much better.....
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950831183226.21649A-100000@crl7.crl.com>

>On Thu, 31 Aug 1995, Grant Youngman and Paul H. Bock wrote:
> snip ....
> >   What is the magic contained in those glass-enveloped
> >entities, that seeming essence of the ether, that makes everything <snip>
>... I'd put the "sound" of the Drake or Hammarlund 170/180 up against any
> rice box I've had the pleasure (?) to listen to.

Cud it be that the IF bandwidth of the older receivers was broader and more symetric? Also, I have discovered I have a lot of work to do in my TS-440S - removing large capacitors from the audio signal line to ground, and replacing coupling capacitors with values 10x those of the original. I have already replaced the filters with wider bandwidths (2.4 changed to 2.7khz and AM filter as used in the 'high priced' radios).

One alligator that is hard to beat is hash from the synthesizer(s). But even changes I have made so far has really improved receiver performance.

Running the old receivers is more fun though. And they seem to recover AM in noise better than the solid-state-spread.

73 de Bill, AB6MT
bilsmith@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Steve Ellington <n4lq@iglou.com>
Subject: Re: Why do toobs sound so much better.....
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950831224701.9218E-100000@iglou>

I also just aquired an R4A and T4X. What is the difference in the R4A and R4B?

  Steve
n4lq@iglou.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Why do toobs sound so much better.....
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950831221139.253A-100000@mm1001.theporch.com>

I am not sure about the bandwidth os symetrical shape. The wider
bandwidth is definately more pleasing to the ears. However I have a hom
brew solidstate receiver that sounds real nice and has collins mechanical
filters that have steep skirt selectivity and still sound nice. SSB
sounds best with the 3 or 4 khz filters than with the 2.1 KHZ filter. I
think the weak signal/noise problem is phase noise since my homebrew rig
has no synthesizers and has the same weak signal/noisey signal recovery
as an old tube radio. The R-70 RX does not receive the noisey signal
nearly as well but it is fully synthesized and has phase noise.

Kevin J Pease
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.
mm1001.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Why do toobs sound so much better.....
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950831221633.253B-100000@mm1001.theporch.com>

Kevin J Pease
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.
mm1001.theporch.com

On Thu, 31 Aug 1995, Steve Ellington wrote:

> I also just aquired an R4A and T4X. What is the difference in the R4A and
> R4B?
>
The R4-B has a different knob skirt. It also has more transistors in the
audio system. The R4-A definately is the best sounding of the DRAKE R-4
series.

Not much deiiference between them,>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995

From: azoth@netcom.com (Az0th)
Subject: Re: Why do toobs sound so much better.....
Message-ID: <199509010334.XAA15529@netcom20.netcom.com>

Hi Steve,

> I also just aquired an R4A and T4X. What is the difference in the R4A and
> R4B?

The biggest difference is the greater use of solid state devices in the R-4B, particularly the FET replacement for the 6AU6 VFO in the A, and a pair of 1N270's for product detection instead of the A's 6GX6. The B's xtal calibrator is also solid state (and has RTL dividers to provide 50 and 25 kHz points if you want them) and some other circuits like the AVC amp. The B therefore uses 5 fewer bottles, cost about $30 more than the A when introduced, and was made for about 5 years versus the A's 2 years. The B also has its phones jack on the side intead of the front, and a slightly different main tuning knob and skirt. That's probably most of the important stuff. ;-}

Cheers es 73
RF Buchanan

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: RE: Why do toobs sound so much better.....
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950831184802.3685A-100000@crl5.crl.com>

One of the problems is that designers of solid state amplifiers use
very high value of coupling capacitors. The result is you get a lot
of low frequency garbage. i.e. you only need about 47 uf as the output
coupling cap to the 8 ohm speaker.   Check your receiver I bet you will
find anything from 100 ufd to 1000 ufd.   Result excellent low frequency
response including all of the power supply ripple (that is another subject)
A 47 uf will cut off (3 db point) at about 400 hz. Most tube amplifiers
use a output transformer. It will start to roll off some where around
3 to 6 khz. The solid state direct to speaker will roll off some place
in the 30 khz to 100 khz region.   Just what I want for the high frequency
static and hiss.   Insert a 5.6 ohm resistor in series with the speaker
and add a 22 uf across a 8 ohm speaker and you now have a roll off at
about 3 khz and it start sounding all most as good as a old tube rig.

We install xtal filters and SCF filters in front of the output to obtain
nice communication bandwidth and then amplify all the crude with a 20
to 30 db audio output stage that is 20 to 30 khz wide.

check the math, plot the bode points or better still just modifiy that

solid state audio output stage for improved audio.

de stan ak0b
e-mail via randyw@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Grant H Youngman <us007699@interramp.com>
Subject: Wrinkle Finish Paint for Cabinets
Message-ID: <Chameleon.950831224541.us007699@gyoungma.gtetel.com>

I know that Antique Electronic Supply sells wrinkle finish paint in a small number of colors. Does anyone know how durable this stuff is? Or if there is a better (maybe epoxy based) product available that is extremely durable and will provide a wrinkle finish?

Thanks ...Grant/NQ5T

Grant H Youngman/NQ5T
us007699@interramp.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: WTB HA-10 Tuner
Message-ID: <9508311431.AA00164@bock.ih.att.com>

I also posted a WTB request for the HA-10 LF tuner for the SX-117.
So if more than one of you knows where to find one,
please let me know too, thanks.

Also still looking for SX-117 main tuning knob, or reasonable substitute.
Tnx, mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Sep 1 07:49:00 1995
From: jproc@worldlinx.com
Subject: WWW Page- Need Help
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950831221348.jproc@>

Daer BA's,

I would like to find out how to design a Web page with the intent of displaying some of the vintage radio equipment aboard Haida. Beyond surfing the Web, I have no idea of how to get this off the ground. Can anyone provide some direction for me? Please reply by private E-mail.

Thanks,

Jerry Proc VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida, Toronto Ontario
